



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,484	12/04/2000	Connie T. Marshall	ODS/018	5978
1473 7590 09/12/2007 ROPES & GRAY LLP PATENT DOCKETING 39/361 1211 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10036-8704			EXAMINER NGUYEN, BINH AN DUC	
			ART UNIT 3714	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/12/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/729,484

Applicant(s)

MARSHALL ET AL.

Examiner

Binh-An D. Nguyen

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-3, 5-7, 11-13 and 15-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 8, 14 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The Request for Continued Examination filed July 16, 2007 has been approved, therefore, the Amendment filed July 16, 2007 is hereby considered. According to the Amendment, claims 4-8 and 14-18 have been amended; and claims 9, 10, 19, and 20 have been canceled. Currently, claims 1-8 and 11-18 are pending in this application, wherein claims 1-3, 5-7, 11-13, and 15-17 have been previously withdrawn due to non-elected inventions. Claims 4, 8, 14, and 18 are hereby examined on the merits. Acknowledgment has been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 4, 8, 14, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brenner et al. (6,004,211).

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome

Art Unit: 3714

either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Referring to claim 14, Brenner et al. teaches a system of providing a user interface for interactive wagering, comprising: a user input device (122)(Figure 1) that accepts user inputs (2:32-67; 8:15-28; 9:5-25; 9:67-10:7); and control circuitry (140)(Figure 2)(7:55-67) that receives an indication from a user of a wagering preference as one of the user inputs, *e.g., player starts the interactive racing game by selecting race tracks, races, wager types, and wager amounts*, that stores the wagering preference, that uses the stored wagering preference as a default selection in subsequent wagers, *e.g., the setting that could be reused as in "duplicate a wager" option (12:45-50)*, wherein the subsequent wagers are associated with at least a track selection, a race selection, a bet type selection, a bet amount selection, and a horse selection, and that provides the user with an opportunity to change the default selection for at least one of the subsequent wagers from the default selection to another selection *e.g., selecting "duplicate a wager," "more bets same race," or "delete" wager, (12:27-50) (Figs.8-19)*. Note that, the "duplicate a wager" function provides the user with an opportunity to place a new wager from previously wager selections, which in fact is a saved player preference or player default setting. Further note that, Brenner et al.'s teaching of user selection of "more bets same race" (12:27-37) wherein the same race being reused is considered as a default or saved player preference.

Referring to claim 4, the system of Brenner et al. above is capable of performing a method of providing a user interface for interactive wagering, comprising: receiving an indication from a user of a wagering preference, *e.g.*, *accepting user inputs* (2:32-67; 8:15-28; 9:5-25; 9:67-10:7); storing the wagering preference, *e.g.*, *the user inputs being stored for subsequent wagers such that some of the user's inputs or player preference could be reused* (12:27-50); using the stored wagering preference as a default selection in subsequent wagers, wherein the subsequent wagers are associated with at least a track selection, a race selection, a bet type selection, a bet amount selection, and a horse selection; and providing the user with an opportunity to change the default selection for at least one of the subsequent wagers from the default selection to another selection *e.g.*, selecting "duplicate a wager," "more bets same race," or "delete" wager, (12:27-50) (Figs.8-19). Note that, the "duplicate a wager" function provides the user with an opportunity to place a new wager from previously wager selections, which in fact is a saved player preference or player default setting. Further note that, Brenner et al.'s teaching of user selection of "more bets same race" (12:27-37) wherein the same race being reused is considered as a default or saved player preference.

Referring to claims 8 and 18, Brenner et al. teaches the at least one default setting of the default wager is a previously selected track (using the hot button to bet on the next race and by pass selection steps 196, 204, and 213)(Figure 3 and column 17, lines 10-26, or using the "duplicate a wager" feature).

Response to Arguments


Applicant's arguments filed July 16, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argued that Brenner et al. does not teach the amended limitations claims 4 and 14 (applicant' remark, pages 8-11) deemed not to be persuasive. Brenner et al. teaches an interactive wagering system that enables the player to create a default setting type of wager that could be reused such as the "duplicate a wager" function provides the user with an opportunity to place a new wager from previously wager selections, which in fact is a saved player preference or player default setting. Further, Brenner et al.'s teaching of user selection of "more bets same race" (12:27-37) wherein the same race being reused is considered as a default or saved player preference. Thus, Brenner et al. fully anticipates the claimed limitations of claims 4 and 14.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Binh-An D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-4440. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on 571-272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BN



Robert E Pezzuto
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3714